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**Fax Transmission** | June 24, 2003

TO: Commissioner for Patents  
Attn: Allen J. Heinz  
Patent Examining Corps  
Facsimile Center  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

FROM: Brendan J. Hanley

OUR REF: 9780.00  
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Total pages, including cover letter: 8

PTO FAX NUMBER: 1-703-872-9314

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Documents Transmitted: Reply and Amendments Under 37 C.F.R. 1.111 and  
Replacement Figure 2  
Applicant: Boutaghou et al  
Serial No.: 09/897,779  
Filed: June 29, 2001  
Group Art Unit: 2653  
Our Ref. No.: 9780.00

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By: Brendan J. Hanley  
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I hereby certify that this paper is being transmitted by facsimile to the U.S. Patent and  
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Jacqueline M. Stadt

Jacqueline M. Stadt  
Signature

June 24, 2003  
Date

**Official**PATENT APPLICATION  
RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR § 1.111  
EXAMINING GROUP 26007/A  
(N.E.)  
MDJ  
8.13.03

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Re App: Boutaghou et al.

Date: June 24, 2003

S.N.: 09/897,779

Docket No.: STL 9780.00

Filed: June 29, 2001

Examiner: Allen Heinz

For: BI-LEVEL CAVITY FOR A SLIDER  
AIR-BEARING SURFACE

Art Unit: 2653

REPLY AND AMENDMENTS UNDER 37 CFR 1.111Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Applicant submits the following response to the Office Action dated March 24, 2003. For the reasons detailed below, the pending claims are believed to be in a condition for allowance.

**Amendments**

Please cancel claims 1-20; and add new claims 21-41.

21. (New) A slider comprising:
- a first rail;
  - a second rail;
  - a cavity positioned between the first and second rail, the cavity having proximal and distal end, the cavity further comprising:
    - a first surface extending between the proximate end of the cavity; and